

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 475

By Pody

A RESOLUTION to honor Bob Pruitt upon his induction into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, agriculture has been a cornerstone of Wilson County since the county's founding in 1799, and those citizens involved in farming have always been a vital part of the community; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we specially recognize those outstanding citizens who have dedicated their lives to promoting the importance of agriculture in our society; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Bob Pruitt, who has been inducted into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame for his hard work and commitment to continuing the legacy of the family farm in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pruitt was born in Jackson County to Carl and Mable Pruitt; he was one of four children who lived on a farm in Granville, where his family grew tobacco, baled hay, and raised cattle and chickens; and

WHEREAS, he attended a small, single-teacher school at Nameless until his family moved to Lebanon in 1961 at the beginning of his sophomore year; during his school years, he was involved with the 4-H program showing cattle and served as vice president of the FFA; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from high school, Bob Pruitt began farming and raised cattle, grew tobacco, and baled hay for farmers across Wilson County; and

WHEREAS, in 1974, Mr. Pruitt married the love of his life, Anita Walker, and the young couple soon had four children: Bobby, Amanda, Andy, and Jonathan; and

WHEREAS, Bob Pruitt again became highly involved in the 4-H program while his children were in school, showing sheep, cows, chickens, and horses; he also helped organize and became an active leader of the 4-H Horse Express program; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, at the age of thirty-eight, he gave up full-time farming and started working at the Wilson Farmers Co-op as a warehouse manager; in 2018, having served with distinction for over three decades, he took his well-deserved retirement after the passing of his wife; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pruitt gave back to his community by serving as president of the Watertown Saddle Club and the Tennessee Saddle Club Association, and he is a former member of the Livestock Association and the Wilson County Farm Bureau Board; and

WHEREAS, Bob Pruitt is a faithful member of Gladeville Church of Christ, where he serves as an elder; and

WHEREAS, in his retirement, Mr. Pruitt enjoys raising a big garden and giving most of the vegetables away, riding his golf cart with his dog, Samson, and spending time with his grandchildren, who endearingly call him "Papa"; and

WHEREAS, the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame honors those dedicated citizens who have committed their lives to developing and maintaining the highest standards and principles in their chosen vocation, and it is fitting that we honor Bob Pruitt for his valuable service to agriculture and the farming community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor Bob Pruitt upon his induction into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame, reflecting fondly upon his many contributions to upholding the agricultural traditions of Wilson County and the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.